



# **HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: 12.02.2005**

**CONTACT: Alicia Whitehead, HFD 713-495-7906**

## **HFD Participates in Annual Toy Collection**

New, unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items are now being accepted at all Houston fire stations through Sunday, Dec. 18, 2005 at 5 p.m. Donations will be donated to the Outreach Program, Inc., a non-profit, tax exempt 501, ( c ) 3 organization serving the greater Harris County youth community.

Citizens are encouraged to make contact with the firefighters when dropping of the donations to ensure the donations are received and placed in a secure area.

The toys will not be given away until Friday, Dec. 23, 2005 at 11 a.m. at the Pleasant Facility, located at 1305 Benson. There is not a waiting list for this toy drive. Families in need of assistance must bring identification, bags ( i.e. plastic trash bags), and valid ID for their children.

Citizens are encouraged not to bring their children with them to the give-a-way due to the possibility inclement weather conditions.

Lorugene Young, executive director of the Outreach Program, Inc., started the organization in 1985 and has consistently remained committed to combating youth drug use and crime through community programs and motivational meetings. Since then, the group has helped thousands of Harris County children receive free school supplies, clothes, toys and food.

Outreach Program, Inc. director Lorugene Young may be contacted at 281-454 -4840.